



Community Engagement Courses: The Activate and the Bachelor of Arts in Community Development

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Activate

This is a Community based introductory course to Community Development provided by the University of Glasgow in partnership with local agencies/organisations e.g. nghomes, Streetlinks, Whiteinch Community Centre, CVS Kilmarnock and many others.

Programme Aim

Its main aim is to give local people who are active in their communities an opportunity to reflect on what they do, why they do it, in order for them to be more effective in getting their voices heard and making demands for the groups and communities they live and work in.

Partnership working

Partnership working is crucial to the success of the programme. Working with local community organisations who request courses to be run in response to building their community capacity agenda. It contributes to the sustainability of organisations, networks and initiatives and leads to increased community participation by building on the existing skills and knowledge of local activists and volunteers.

Our partners say ...

“The reputation of the University gave a real sense of confidence and achievement to the students who took part – it helped them to believe that they could go on and further develop their learning”

“ An additional benefit of Activate is that it strengthens local networks – people get a chance to listen to each other and see different ways of working together”

Ng homes 2013



The Approach

Taking a popular education approach to the teaching and learning is a fundamental part of the programme. The starting point is the experience of the participants. Using an informal, participative and yet challenging approach enables participants to think more deeply about the work they are doing and how they can contribute to the development of their community.

Curriculum for Activate

- What is Community?
- What is Community development work?
- Values and Principles of Community Development.
- Equality /Anti discrimination
- Power and Participation
- Local & global links
- Practice approaches:
- Identifying needs & assets
- Group work
- Learning for change
- Dealing with conflict
- Monitoring & Evaluation.

Key tasks

Participants undertake the following;

- Discrimination essay (500 words)
- Community investigation (small group presentation)
- Understanding group dynamics (presentation).



Success

SINCE 2003 OVER 850 ACTIVISTS AND VOLUNTEERS HAVE COMPLETED THE ACTIVATE

SINCE 2005 OVER 250 STUDENTS HAVE GRADUATED FROM THE BACD COURSE



BA Community Development

The BA Community Development will develop both the practical and analytical skills to effectively work with a range of communities to bring about social change

Programme structure

This programme is specifically designed for people who are paid or unpaid workers in the field. You will normally attend classes a day and a half per week from September to May in first and second year and a day a week in third year. Some courses are taught as block weeks.

Year 1

Community Development Methods
Community Development Approaches
Community Development Practice
Social theories 1
Local and global Contexts

Year 2

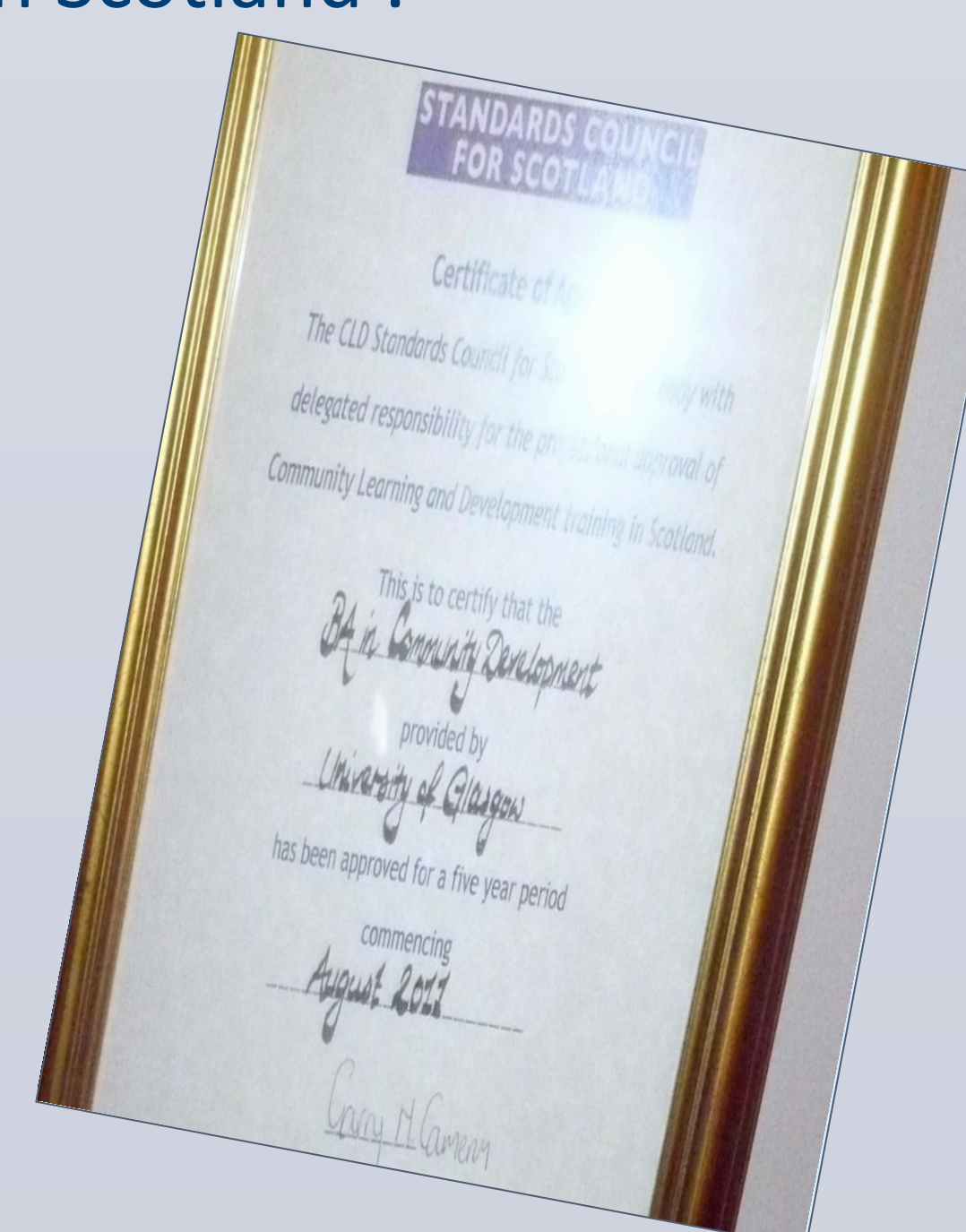
Community Development for social change
Critical practice for empowerment
Social theories 2
Popular education

Year 3

Social theories 3
Introduction to Research for Community Development
Community Development Placement.

BACD Professional Accreditation

This degree programme is a professional qualification to work in Community Development, Youth Work, Community Learning & Development and related fields, endorsed by the Standards Council for CLD in Scotland .



Special Features

Applications are welcome from students without traditional qualifications but who can demonstrate academic ability and potential and that they have more than 12 hours a week practice.

The CDPlacement in Year 3 provides you with the opportunity to demonstrate your competence as a worker in a different setting, thereby demonstrating the transferability of your skills. A range of placement opportunities will be available by negotiation with the teaching team.

Partnership Working

Close partnerships relations with Further education Colleges enable career paths and progression. These Colleges e.g. Anniesland and John Wheatley provide HNC course in Working in Communities. We encourage our Activate students to apply for either the HNC or the BACD and the Colleges in turn support HNC students to progress to undergraduate level through the BACD.

International links

There is the possibility of carrying out an overseas placement in the third year of the programme. In addition there are annual study trips which, although not part of the degree programme, are run by the course team and enrich the learning of students by exposing them to different cultures and alternative forms of practice. In recent years we have visited Kathmandu, Mumbai, New York, Amsterdam and Ireland.

Career Prospects

Students who complete this degree go on to work in many areas of community development. These include:

Youth work, Community arts, Housing, Addictions,

Economic development, Literacies, Adult education, Asylum seekers & Refugees, Community regeneration work.

